

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIE-00 AF-08

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 AID-05 SS-15

NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 EB-07 /103 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:WPOBRIEN;LL

APPROVED BY IO:DTOUSSAINT

IO/UNESCO:RCHEATER

IO/UNP:GHELMAN

L/UNA:RSTOWE

IO/ML:JWASHBURN

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O R 170001Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL NICE
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229730

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, PORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT:UNESCO IG DISCUSSION OF DRAFT DECLARATION ON MASS
MEDIA

REF: PARIS 25964; BONN 14880 (NOTAL)

1. DEPT. BELIEVES IG MEMBERS AND U.S. NOT VERY FAR APART
AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE ON UNIFIED STRATEGY TO DERAILED CON-
SIDERATION OF DRAFT DECLARATION ON MEDIA BY 19TH GC. WITH
RESPECT TO SPECIFIC ISSUES RAISED BY VARIOUS IG MEMBERS,
PERM REP MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING POINTS FOR GUIDANCE DURING
SEPT. 17 MEETING.

2. APPROACH TO LDC'S. IT IS NOT ENOUGH SIMPLY TO RAISE
POSTPONEMENT WITH SELECTED LDC PERM DELS WITHOUT GOING TO
CAPITALS AS SOME IG MEMBERS SUGGEST. LDC PERM DELS MUST
INVARIABLY SEEK GUIDANCE FROM THEIR GOVERNMENTS, WHICH
SHOULD BE FULLY PRIMED ON ISSUES INVOLVED AND IG CONCERN.
WITHOUT DEMARCHES TO CAPITALS, IT IS UNLIKELY LDC GOVERN-
MENTS WOULD APPRECIATE IMPORTANCE IG GIVES THIS MATTER AND
THEY WOULD BE LESS LIKELY TO ACT. THEREFORE, DEPT.
BELIEVES APPROACHES AT BOTH LEVELS ESSENTIAL: IG MEMBERS
SHOULD ADVISE LDC PERM DELS OF IG CONCERN OVER DRAFT
DECLARATION AND ASK THEM FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND INTER-
VENTION WITH DG FOR POSTPONEMENT, DRAWING ON ARGUMENTS
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SUGGESTED IN STATE 188615. IG SHOULD ALSO INFORM LDC
PERM DELS THAT IG GOVERNMENTS MAKING DEMARCHES TO CAPITALS
(IT IS APPARENT FROM BONN REFTEL THAT FRG, AT LEAST, IS
ALREADY MAKING DEMARCHES TO CERTAIN AFRICAN COUNTRIES.
U.S. WILL BE MAKING DEMARCHES AFTER THE IG MEETING TO
SELECTED LDC CAPITALS.)

3. ACCOMMODATION TO LDC CONCERNS. DEPT. AGREES IG MEMBER

MUST BE FORTHCOMING RE LDC CONCERN OVER IMBALANCE IN FLOW OF INFORMATION, BUT WE CANNOT ACCEPT RESTRICTING FREE FLOW OF NEWS AND INFORMATION. (DEPT. IS NOT CLEAR AS TO WHAT BELGIUM, FRG, AND PORTUGAL MEAN WHEN THEY CALL ON IG MEMBERS "TO BE POSITIVE" AND MORE ACCOMMODATING TO LDC INTERESTS.) U.S. RECOGNIZED DISPARITY OF FLOW OF INFORMATION AT 18TH GC AND PROPOSED GREATER COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY TO ASSIST LDC'S TO OFFSET THIS DISPARITY WHICH IS PRIMARY REASON FOR LDC DEMAND FOR CONTROL OF INFORMATION FLOW. U.S. ALSO STATED ITS SUPPORT OF UNESCO PROGRAMS TO ASSIST LDC'S EXPAND COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES. IN STATE 215426, DEPT. NOTED USAID ACTIVITIES TO SHARE U.S. KNOWLEDGE WITH THIRD WORLD AND HAS POUCHED COPY OF CABLE (STATE 113800) DETAILING USAID PROPOSAL FOR ATS-6 SATELLIT AND FOLLOW-ON PROGRAM. PERM REP MAY ALSO INFORM IG THAT AMERICAN MEDIA LEADERS (PRINT AND BROADCAST), IN MEETING SEPTEMBER 10 WITH U.S. NATCOM REPS, AGREED EXPLORE POSSIBILITY ESTABLISH PRIVATE FUND TO TRAIN LDC JOURNALISTS/ BROADCASTERS. CONTINUED LDC STRESS ON RESTRICTING FREE FLOW MAY DETRACT FROM RATHER THAN ENHANCE WILLINGNESS U.S. MEDIA TO OFFER PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE TO LDC'S TO INCREASE MEDIA CAPABILITY.

4. VENUE FOR RAISING POSTPONEMENT ISSUE. DEPT. DOES NOT WISH TO PUSH DECISION ON POSTPONEMENT AT EXBD UNLESS IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE IS MAJORITY SUPPORT. DEFEAT THERE WOULD MAKE IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE CONVINCE DRAFTING/NEGOTIATING GROUP MEETING TO ELIMINATE CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT FROM 19TH GC AGENDA. DEPT. BELIEVES RAISING POSTPONEMENT FIRST AT DRAFTING/NEGOTIATING GROUP WILL PROVIDE BEST OPPORTUNIT FOR SUCCESS. ON OTHER HAND, IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO PERSUADE EXBD TO SUPPORT POSTPONEMENT, OUR CASE AT GC WOULD BE STRENGTHENED.

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5. DRAFT ALTERNATIVE TEXT SENT SEPT. DEPT. PLANS GET INPUT OF AMERICAN MEDIA REPS ON ALTERNATIVE U.S. TEXT IN ORDER INSURE BROAD BACKING OF MEDIA COMMUNITY FOR U.S. POSITION AT NAIROBI. THEREFORE, AS NEGOTIATING PROCESS ON COMMON TEXT GETS UNDERWAY, WE MAY HAVE SOME ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AS WELL. HABIB

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